Loophole in school construction

†504. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that roof of the rooms of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Greater Noida, which was constructed with a cost of Rs. 50 lakh, got blown away with a slight waft of wind;

(b) whether it is also a fact that roofs of rooms constructed by Central Public Works Department adjacent to the school was not even slightly damaged by the same waft of the wind;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry of the same has been conducted by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the employees found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The inquiry held officials and contractors responsible for, poor quality of material used and procedural lapses in executing the construction work. Disciplinary action has been initiated against the erring officials. FIR has also been lodged against the contractors and erring officials.

Shortage of science teachers

505. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian National Science Academy and the National Council of Applied Economic Research have upheld that there is a vast shortage of good science teachers especially when the demand of the subject Is increased day-to-day; and

(b) if so, Government's plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Indian National Science Academy (INSA) in collaboration with the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has brought

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

out a document depicting the status of Science in India with the title "India Science Report". The report among several other things mentions about the availability of good science teachers. However, no shortage of science teachers is reported by any organization to this Ministry.

Improvement in condition of women and children

†506. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any concrete steps to improve the social and economic condition of women and children of rural areas living below the poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to announce any new scheme for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Government is implementing various schemes such as Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), Swayamsidha, Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), programmes of Central Social Welfare Board such as Awareness Generation Camps, Condensed Course of Education for Women,Training programmes, etc. to improve the social and economic condition of women in the country.

(c) and (d) New schemes for this purpose are not proposed to be announced in the immediate future.

Entry of foreign institutions under WTO

†507. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government cannot ban entry of the foreign educational institutions in the country under WTO;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of the cases pending with Government seeking for permission by the foreign educational institutions?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.